REMARKS

This Request for Reconsideration is submitted in response to the official action dated November 1, 2007 and further to the Examiner interview conducted on April 2, 2008. Claims 1-8, 10, and 12-24 were pending in the application. In the official action, claims 12-23 were withdrawn from consideration, and claims 1-8, 10, and 24 were rejected.

Applicant submits that claims 1-8, 10, and 24 are in condition for allowance and requests withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

\$103 Rejections

Claims 1-8, 10, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Thomas et al.* (CA Patent Application No. 2 314 283) in view of *Miekka et al.* (US Patent No. 6,540,865) and *Ugolick et al.* (US Patent No. 5,993,961).

As noted in the Interview Summary, "the combination of the references is not acceptable." Accordingly, the rejections under \$103 should be withdrawn. Indeed, in the Interview Summary the Examiner stated that "based on the arguments, the rejection would be withdrawn."

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to telephone the undersigned at (908) 654-5000.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit—any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Dated: April 9, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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